

Message Text

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PAGE 01 COPENH 00588 041259Z

53

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

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NEA-10 DRC-01 (ISO) W

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P R 041102Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

TO USIA WASHDC PRIORITY

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 8573

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

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USIAC

E.O. 11652: NA

SUBJ: EDITORIAL REACTION NORDIC COUNCIL/NATO/EEC

1. BERLINGSKE TIDENDE(INDEPENDENT CONSERVATIVE) COMMENTS ON LATEST MEETING OF NORDIC COUNCIL. QUOTE: OFFICIAL SOVIET NEWS AGENCY APN HAS COMMENTED ON LATEST MEETING OF NORDIC COUNCIL, WHICH MOST FRIENDS OF NORDIC COOPERATION COULD HAVE DONE WITHOUT. IT SAYS: "IT IS GENERAL OPINION IN SOVIET UNION THAT MANY PRACTICAL AND POSITIVE RESULTS HAVE BEEN ACHIEVED IN NORDIC COOPERATION THROUGH NORDIC COUNCIL. DENMARK'S, NORWAY'S AND ICELAND'S PARTICIPATION IN ATLANTIC PACT AND DENMARK'S MEMBERSHIP IN EEC CONSTITUTE SERIOUS COMPLICATIONS, LIMIT POSSIBILITIES OF COOPERATION AND HAVE NEGATIVE EFFECT ON ACTIVITIES OF NORDIC COUNCIL IN VARIOUS AREAS. CONTINUED DETENTE IN EUROPE AND ESTABLISHMENT OF COLLECTIVE SECURITY ARRANGEMENT WILL CHANGE SITUATION TO BETTER, ACCORDING TO GENERAL SOVIET OPINION, AND MEAN QUITE DIFFERENT PREREQUISITES FOR BROAD

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PAGE 02 COPENH 00588 041259Z

DEVELOPMENT OF NORDIC COOPERATION AND ACTIVITIES OF NORDIC

COUNCIL"

2. (APN'S) COMMENTARY INDICATES CLEARLY THAT SPEECH BY COMMUNIST ICELANDIC MINISTER OF INDUSTRY CONCERNING KEFLAVIK BASE AND PROPOSAL BY DANISH LEFTIST SOCIALISTS FOR "NORTH EAST ATLANTIC PEACE ZONE" WERE WELCOMED BY RUSSIANS. NORDIC COOPERATION AND NORDIC COUNCIL WILL BENEFIT FROM SUCH PROPOSALS, ACCORDING TO RUSSIANS, ALTHOUGH SOVIET OBSERVERS OUGHT TO KNOW THAT SECURITY-POLITICAL QUESTIONS ARE NOT DISCUSSED IN NORDIC COUNCIL. THEY OUGHT TO KNOW ALSO THAT ONE REASON FOR THIS IS SPECIAL FINNISH-SOVIET RELATIONSHIP.

3. IF (APN'S COMMENTARY IS TO BE VIEWED AS DEMONSTRATION OF SOVIET INTEREST IN POSSIBILITIES OF NORDIC COOPERATION TO TERMINATE NATO-MEMBERSHIP OF THREE NORDIC COUNTRIES AND DENMARK'S PARTICIPATION IN EEC, IT BODES ILL FOR NORDIC-SOVIET RELATIONS. BUT MAYBE COMMENTARY WAS MISUNDERSTANDING UNQUOTE.
HELLER

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NNN

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